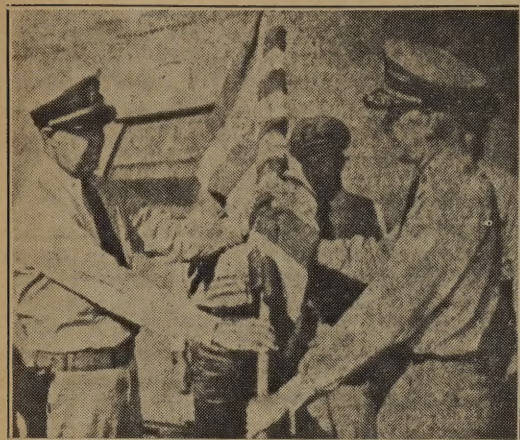




## DALLAS RECEIVES COLORS



Commodore J. R. Perry, at right, Commander Area Construction Brigades, presents battalion colors to Lt. Cmdr. W. B. Dallas.

## Seabee Outfit Signally Honored

A Pearl Harbor newspaper clipping reveals that Lt. Cmdr. William B. Dallas, CEC, USNR, as officer in charge of the 302nd Naval Construction Battalion was presented with both colors and a battalion flag at the Seabee Amphibious Force Pontoon Assembly Center by Commodore J. R. Perry, Commander of U. S. Navy Construction Brigades in the Pacific war area. According to Area Brigade headquarters, this presentation marked the first time in the Pacific area and one of the first times anywhere that a military unit has received colors in the field.

The 302nd Battalion, commissioned without ceremony August 26th, is composed of Seabee amphibious invasion units, which land vital supplies on assault beachheads. Members of the new battalion have participated in seven Pacific invasions from the Marshalls to the Philippines.

"The work you do," Commodore Perry of the Navy Civil Engineering Corps told the battalion, "is absolutely essential to any amphibious movement we have made or will make in the future. Your performance has been exemplary."

The article quoted Lt. Cmdr. Dallas as saying "The battalion is composed of specialists on naval pontoons, which have been used as self-propelled barges, wharves, docks, causeways and piers on beachheads in the island-hitting march up the Pacific."

This is the second military honor that has been conferred upon Lt. Cmdr. Dallas within a short space of time for his most meritorious service.

## Turkish Official Studies New Jersey Road Construction

The fame of New Jersey as a pioneer and leader in highway construction is indeed widespread. Only recently a visitor from far off Turkey came to gather information on modern highway construction and design as a basis for a future highway program to be inaugurated in his native land. This visitor was ably informed and his many questions well answered by Jim Kersey, acting as a guide. We feel certain that the representative from the Near East will return to the shores of the eastern Mediterranean with much valuable information.

## Bridge Employees Assoc. Hold First Annual Dinner

### Hays and Henderson Receive Citations

The State Bridge Employees Association held their first annual dinner on Thursday, May 10th, at the Packer Hotel in Perth Amboy. After the playing of the National Anthem the forty members present and their guests enjoyed an excellent meal.

James Lipari, president of the organization, opened the business program and told of the growth of the Association from the time of its inception three years ago with sixteen members to its present status of 93% of the employees eligible.

Commissioner Allardice, the toastmaster, read letters from Mr. J. Stanley Herbert and Senator Hayden Proctor who were unable to attend.

Frank Walker, legislative agent of the Civil Service Association, and George L. Crosson, president of the Monmouth County Council No. 9, Civil Service Association, spoke on the advantages offered by councils and state associations to employees.

Eleven new men were then accepted into the organization and Mr. Lipari presented Don J. Henderson, Superintendent of Drawbridges, with a citation in recognition of work done in behalf of the reclassification.

James L. Hays, Chief of the Electrical Division, was introduced and presented with a citation, after which he expressed gratitude for appreciation of the association and lauded the men for their part in bringing about the reclassification. He also welcomed the officers of the Association to the Trenton office.

The meeting was then turned back to the toastmaster who introduced Joseph Mulligan, president of the State Civil Service Association. Mr. Mulligan commended the efforts of the Association in integrating the works of the men and the officials, and also paid tribute to Mr. Hays and Mr. Henderson for service rendered outside the regular line of duty in developing the present constructive plan.

Mr. Eugene V. Connett, Administrative Assistant, spoke on personnel and its relationship with Civil Service. He also mentioned the spirit of cooperation shown by the delegates of the Bridge Association when presenting matters for adjustment.

Other guests of the Association were John T. Deter, Edward W. Downs, Russell Henry, Joseph Hunt and John Kilpatrick.

## V-E Day and After

The official proclamation of V. E.-Day by the President of the United States on May 8th brought to every American not only a sense of deep gratitude that the war was over in Europe, but also the hope that the victory over Japan would not be long delayed. As the President said in part in his brief but moving proclamation, "The victory won in the West must now be won in the East. The whole world must be cleansed of the evil from which half the world has been freed. United, the peace-loving nations have demonstrated in the West that their arms are stronger by far than the might of dictators or the tyranny of military cliques that once called us soft and weak. The power of our peoples to defend themselves against all enemies will be proved in the Pacific war as it has been proved in Europe." It was in keeping with the mood of the American people for the President to summon them to a day of prayer and thanksgiving and dedication "to the memory of those who have given their lives to make possible our victory."

But the President also was prompted to say in his address to the American people that the watchword for the future was "work, work and more work." His injunction has been echoed and re-echoed by all our leaders. We must not relax our efforts or diminish our cooperative endeavors until full and final victory has been achieved in the East. The realization that millions of our men and women in the Armed Forces, who are now in Europe, will be transferred to the Pacific, will increase our determination to continue our labors undiminished.

For us in the Highway Department there are still well over 400 of our men and women in the Armed Forces. Many of these are now in the Pacific theatre and others will presently be there. To them and to all others in our Armed Forces we must pledge a continuity of effort and an unyielding determination to see that we at the home front support those on the fighting fronts till victory is won.

V.E.-Day then, is a day of thanksgiving rather than unlimited rejoicing. It does not mark the end of the road for the Armies of Liberation; it does mark a most important milestone along the road. Let us, therefore, on the home front continue to support our Armed Forces in the field and let us go forward together to complete the unfinished task which is before us!

*Spencer Miller, Jr.*  
State Highway Commissioner.

## Son Killed in Action



Pfc. ANTHONY PERRUCCI

Pvt. Anthony Perrucci, 19, an infantryman with the 63rd Division of the Seventh Army who was previously reported missing in action in Germany since March 19, was killed in action on that date, according to a telegram received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Perrucci, of Plainfield. Mr. Angelo Perrucci is employed in the maintenance crew of Foreman Augie Newman in the Plainfield area.

From information received from a buddy of the youth, Mr. and Mrs. Perrucci are of the opinion that their son was killed in combat at Saarbrücken, Germany.

Pvt. Perrucci entered the service in September, 1944, and trained at Fort Bragg, N. C., and Fort George G. Meade, Md., prior to being overseas in the latter part of January. Before entering the service he was associated with his

brother, John Perrucci, in a trucking business.

In addition to his parents, Pvt. Perrucci, is survived by two other brothers in the service, Pvt. Angelo Perrucci, stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Pfc. Arthur Perrucci, formerly attached to an Army Ordnance unit, who has been overseas 17 months and recently was transferred to an Infantry Division and is now in Germany. Also surviving are two other brothers, John and Ernest, and two sisters, Amelia and Gloria, all of whom are at home.

Just last month there was reported the death of Cpl. Thomas Yannotta, USMC, on Iwo Jima, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Yannotta. Mr. Yannotta and Mr. Perrucci work in the same maintenance crew. This second death within the period of one month of sons of men in this crew brings the war tragically home to this small group. On behalf of Highway employees everywhere we extend our heartfelt sympathy to their survivors.

We are sorry to report that your editor, W. Carman Davis, has been laid up with a back ailment since Friday, May 11. After several days at home, he was taken to Mercer Hospital, Trenton, the following Tuesday and at this writing is still confined there. Carman's trouble developed just as he was in the midst of preparing your paper for publication, and he has had to rely upon his Girl Friday, Miss Marion Hester, to put the final touches on this issue of THE HIGHWAY. We think you will agree that she has done an excellent job. It is hoped that Carman will be back with us soon.

## Norton Escapes From Nazis

### Tells Own Story of Atrocities

A gaunt, haggard Highwayman arrived home recently with a tale of Nazi atrocities that will long live in the memories of those who were privileged to hear his story. He was Pvt. Whitney F. Norton, a former member of the Electrical Division, recently discharged from an army hospital after recovering from battle wounds and frozen feet.



WHITNEY F. NORTON

As a member of the 83rd Infantry, Norton had fought his way across France, Belgium and on into Germany. He was in the Ardennes forest at the time the Germans broke through in the now famous Battle of the Bulge. It was there that he was taken prisoner on December 27th and was to learn at first hand the horrors of internment in a Nazi prison camp.

After being captured, Pvt. Norton together with eight other members of his patrol were taken 50 to 75 miles behind the German lines and quartered in a large slave labor camp. Here he saw at first hand the atrocities that have only recently come to light, and here, too, experienced the cruelties of Nazi methods. Besides being knocked down and kicked for failing to divulge military information, they were herded into unheated barracks, already overcrowded with starving American prisoners. Here their food consisted of "soup" made of warm water into which were thrown pieces of stale bread. This was served twice a day.

### Plan to Escape

During their first night in this German prison camp, Norton and his companions heard machine gunfire nearby. Shortly after this a large dump truck rolled into the compound and was loaded with bodies of those whose execution he had just heard. They also noticed that after loading the truck the detail in charge of it went to a nearby building leaving the truck unguarded. Other prisoners told them that this happened every night—first the machine gunning and then the loading of bodies.

For two nights, Norton and three of his companions, who were physically able to make an attempt to escape, heard the murderous fire of machine guns and saw riddled bodies of victims piled high in the huge truck. Carefully they noted how each night the detail in charge reported to the same small building before driving away with their gruesome cargo. This never varying routine seemed to offer a means of escape and they spent most of the day discussing every possible detail. When at last their plans were perfected, they waited for darkness on the third night. But let us hear the story in Norton's own words.

"It seemed as though the clock stood still. Time never dragged more slowly than it did after darkness came that night. Finally we could hear a lot of voices and then the machine guns began to rattle. Before long the truck drove in and they loaded it with bodies.

(Continued on Page 2)



# THE HIGHWAY

Published by the New Jersey State Highway Dept.

In the Interests of Its Employees

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## THE MIGHTY SEVENTH

The 7th War Loan Drive started May 14th and once again we here on the home front are given our chance to do something real to help win the war. Individuals are asked to take on their biggest quota to date—7 billion dollars, 4 billions in E Bonds alone.

You may have asked yourself these questions, "Why this biggest of all individual quotas now? Haven't we already reached the peak?"

A fair question—requiring a straight answer. The fact is the money is needed for war. The Battle of Japan has just begun. It must be backed up and paid for. While the war in the West was our major concern, we were not able to go all-out against the Jap. But neither has the Jap. The Allied Military Command tells us that the destruction of Japan's armies has not yet reached the annual rate of normal replacements—between 200,000 and 250,000 men yearly. And the Jap, as our men in the Pacific know, fights to the death.

With the defeat of our enemy in the West, new tasks confront our military forces. Millions of fighting men—freshly outfitted and equipped—will have to be moved from Europe halfway around the globe; and supplied day-in, day-out by hundreds of new ships now building.

More of everything will be needed. More B-29's. More tanks, half-tracks, jeeps, and trucks. More rockets, mortars, airborne radar. And something new—the P-80 or "Shooting Star." Watch for it.

Too, there is our obligation to the sick, wounded and disabled who will require medical attention and care. Many millions of dollars will be required for mustering-out pay and benefits voted by Congress to help our veterans get started in civilian life. That's the least we can do in return for what they've done for us.

Just the other day a letter came to the offices of THE HIGHWAY. It was written from out in the Pacific by Capt. Ciro P. Mastronardy, who formerly worked in the maintenance field crew under the supervision of the late William Hagin and who is now assigned to the 251st AAA Group on duty somewhere in the Philippines. Capt. Mastronardy has been in service since March 9, 1942, and to quote in part from the letter received from him dated April 18, 1945, he says:

"This via air mail plan is a very good idea and the thoughts expressed in the February issue very true. I will appreciate receiving THE HIGHWAY under the new plan and hope you will accept my contribution to the fund, enclosing money order, and if the subscription to this fund is filled I would like it to be used to sustain the publication of the paper.

"I am now somewhere in the Philippines and can reveal my last station which was Bougainville of the Solomon group... Wishing all in the Highway Department continued success in all their endeavors and a speedy return to the normal way of life."

Sincerely,  
(Signed) Ciro P. Mastronardy  
Capt. — CAC

We think there is a lesson in this letter for all of us here at home. When a young man in the Pacific can find time and the will to send home to us a money order to help out in our efforts, is it asking too much for us to loan our money at a good rate of interest to see that men with his spirit have the things they need to defeat our common enemy, the Jap; and thus sweep the Pacific clear of fascist hate—forever.

Remember—we are not being asked to donate anything. When you invest in War Bonds you know your money will do three things:

1. It will go to work promptly to help win the war.
2. It will aid in overcoming the dangers of inflation today and in the days ahead.
3. As money saved, it will be yours to spend some time in the future when your need for money may be greater than it is today and when you may really be able to buy something worthwhile with it.

There will be only two War Loan Drives this year, not three as in the past. We are asked to buy more bonds because only in this way can we make 2 take the place of 3. The State Highway Department has had a splendid record in past drives. To raise the vast sum needed we will all have to make an extra effort. Let's do our part. Buy that extra War Bond today and keep on buying—for our own sake and for our country's.

## Highway Honor Roll



## News from Our Men In the Service



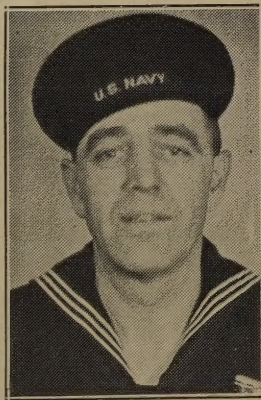
JOSEPH F. MURRAY

T/Sgt. Joseph F. Murray, formerly an electrician at Fernwood, is back in this country on a 30-day leave after 29 months in North Africa, Sicily and Italy as a member of the 15th Air Force.

Joe was proud of the part his outfit played in bringing the European war to a successful conclusion. Among the targets bombed by the 15th Air Force include the Ploesti oil fields, Normandy, Southern France, Foggia, and many points in North Africa and Europe. As a result of these exploits, Joe wears three Presidential Citations and ten bronze campaign stars.

At the age of 44, Murray would like to leave the wars and return to his peacetime pursuits with the Equipment Division. We wish him a full measure of good luck.

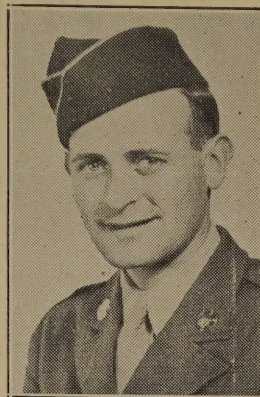
## With Equipment Division Again



HARRY DITMAR

Harry Ditmar, after a lengthy sojourn in the Navy, has returned to permanent employment with the Equipment Division. He is now stationed at the Merchantville Garage in the capacity of a mechanic and is one of many Highwaymen who will return to their former employment in the near future. Good luck.

## Willie Injured in Action For Second Time



JOSEPH P. WILLIE

S/Sgt. Joseph P. Willie, who formerly worked in the maintenance crew now under the Supervision of Foreman C. V. Dickinson, was seriously wounded in action on March 7th somewhere in Germany. The injury was the result of the explosion of a land mine. This was Sgt. Willie's second injury of the war. Previously he was wounded in Belgium on September 10, 1944, and was returned to England for hospitalization. He returned to active duty on Christmas Day, 1944, and remained in action until his injury on March 7th. He has been awarded the Purple Heart, the Expert Infantry Combat Badge, and just recently received two Oak Leaf Clusters.

Sgt. Willie was inducted into the service in April, 1943. He will be remembered as the son of the late Joseph B. Willie, who was also in the Maintenance Division of this Department, and who met his death in an accident while working on the job back in April, 1938, when the road-scraper which he was operating was struck by a truck and trailer along Route 25 near Bridgeboro.

## With Patton's 3rd Army



FRANK VAN SYCKLE, JR.

Pfc. Frank Van Syckle, Jr., son of Frank, Sr., of the Maintenance Division is serving overseas with an Engineer Combat Battalion of Patton's Third Army. In an article in "Stars and Stripes" recently Gen. Patton commended his Division for their crossing of the Moselle River while making the Koenigsmacher bridgehead in the campaign for Metz. The crossing was made "against terrible weather and hard enemy opposition."

Before entering the service in August, 1943, Pfc. Van Syckle was employed in the same Maintenance Crew with his father, Frank Van Syckle, under Foreman S. H. Titsworth in the vicinity of Washington, Warren County.

## Sweeney in Major Battles

A letter written at sea by Raymond L. Sweeney, formerly of the Electrical Division, states that events are moving swiftly, that in the course of three months he has taken part in the liberation of the Philippines, the battle of Iwo Jima, and is now engaged in the third major battle which is nearing completion. Ray, who is a Gunners Mate 1/c, gives his address as USS Bull—APD—78, Fleet P. O., San Francisco Calif.

## Your M. C. presents— THE LADIES... Bless Them

With the news of Theresa Ryan's first wedding anniversary, celebrated with a week-end in New York, comes the realization that it is also the first anniversary of your M. C.'s who introduced The Ladies (Bless Them!) with an account of Theresa's wedding. As she looks back upon the past year with fond memories, we, too, are happy in the thoughts of our past columns and are grateful to all of you for your cooperation.

Thus we begin a new year with a new name. While Sarah Shulman has long been a familiar figure in the file room, we just recently learned that she is an equally familiar figure at the Hitching Post where she devotes many hours.

To Anna M. Manion and to Ruth Barbour on the loss of their respective mothers, we hope that the following words bring comfort:

There are those who are thinking of you—  
There are those who truly care  
Whose heartfelt sympathy is yours  
In the loss you have to bear.

It's good to see Lillian Happ back to work and hope that her husband has fully recovered.

Vacation time looms near and Bernadetta Johnson initiated the season with a pleasant visit in York, Pennsylvania. Helen Disbrow, too, has been vacationing with her husband who recently returned from overseas on a furlough.

While Winifred Brady awaits her turn, Ruth Moran has already undergone a minor operation. Were "get well" wishes on the ration list, there would still be no shortage of points to wish Ruthie on the road of speedy recovery.

## Norton Escapes From Nazis

(Continued from Page 1)

We waited until the soldiers left the truck and then climbed in and covered ourselves with the dead.

"Before long we were driven away. After about five or ten minutes the truck stopped and soon we could feel the body raising up. We slid out of the truck and into a long deep hole where other bodies already had been dumped. The smell was terrible and we could hear moaning in the pit. We lay very still until we heard the truck drive off and then carefully worked our way to the top where we took off our uniforms and replaced them with clothing we stripped from some of the corpses. "After looking around to be sure that no guards were in sight, we climbed out of the pit and started westward. We walked all night and when daylight came we lay hidden in the snow and waited for darkness to come. We followed this practice for four days and nights before we met up with the advancing American forces and rejoined our outfit."

**Gets Silver Star**  
Prior to being captured, Norton had been awarded the Silver Star for knocking out an enemy tank with a bazooka and capturing an SS officer who had valuable military information on him. He would not elaborate on the details of this episode, preferring to talk of the valiant work of the famous 83rd Infantry Division.

On January 13th Norton was knocked out of action with frozen feet and a severe shrapnel wound in the hip. On top of this he suffered a bad concussion which accounts for the fact that the first he remembers of his experience was when he regained consciousness in a front line hospital. Of course he wears the Purple Heart. Norton is the son of Mrs. John O'Neil, of 68 Beechwood Avenue, Trenton, and the nephew of Lieut. Col. E. R. Sherbourn, former head of the Electrical Division. He is married and makes his home at 235 Rutherford Avenue, Trenton.

★ BUY WAR BONDS ★



## ELECTRICAL FLASHES

John Kilpatrick

The Electrical Bowling Club held its second annual dinner at the Locust Inn on May 3rd. After an excellent meal, **George Goldy**, as toastmaster, presented the "Red Face" awards for the low scores of the season. Events that also received mention were the high scores, and the showing of the Electrical Division team with high total score on the opening night of the Mercer County Handicap Tournament. Those present were Team Captain **Arthur Cadell**, **John Radice**, **Armin Innocenzi**, **Frank Harris**, **Chester Anderson**, **William Rasmussen**, **George Goldy**, **John Rochford**, **Thomas Borden**, **Edward McCabe**, **Alcaid Wright**, **Russell Cook**, **Joseph Mizsur**, **Arthur Nelson**, **George Engennach**, **Jacob Brewer**, **Charles Brennan** and **John Kilpatrick**.

Among the Electrical Division employees who are contributing to the war effort by raising food, we find **Joseph Hogate** of Quinton who raises several acres of tomato plants for sale to commercial tomato farmers.

We wish to express our sympathy to **Herman** and **Abraham Silverman** of Newark on the death of their mother.

**Joe Hunt** received a letter from **Richard Goldy**, stationed at the Naval Landing Force Equipment Depot at Norfolk. Dick says (among other things) that it's like a highway emergency down there—24 hours a day, every day. He also expresses his appreciation of the "Highway." Mail will reach him at **Richard Goldy, E.M. 1c, N.E.F.E.D., Norfolk, Va.** Dick managed to get home recently to celebrate his wedding anniversary.

**Frank Harris** had a hot time recently when he and his wife woke up in the middle of the night to find that their apartment was on fire. They had to leave by the fire-escape and ended up in the hospital. Frank was burned about the face and hands and his wife was overcome by smoke.

The Highway Credit Union has invested some of its idle cash in support of the Seventh War Loan by the purchase of a \$1000.00 War Bond.

**Art Cadell** is on the sick list fighting a heavy cold.

We wish to welcome **Miriam Husid** who is the new Electrical Division File Clerk, replacing **Dolores Sica**, who resigned to accept a position with the Bureau of Economic Development.

Birthday greetings for the month of May are due to the following: **William Allen**, **Harry Batchelder**, **Alexander Dickson**, **Frank Ellwell**, **Philip Guerrieri**, **Clark C. Harris**, **Joseph Hogate**, **Charles Howell**, **Leonard Liebich**, **William Longacre**, **Phineas Marr**, **Joseph Martine**, **Grace Moore**, **Gerald Murray**, **Howard Pearce**, **Orville Stillwell**, **Percy Stuermann**, and **Edwin Wheeler**.

## LAND AND LEGAL

ED DRAKE

**Pat Ward's** daughter, **Lt. Althea M. Ward**, after three years' service as an army nurse in the South Pacific, is home on leave.

We are glad to report that the cast has been removed from **Grover Brown's** leg and he is now able to walk with the aid of crutches.

Although **Harry Denmead** got a late start in marriage, he is striving to get ahead of the younger members of the Title Bureau. He is expecting the stork to make another visit in the near future.

We are happy to report that **Bert Ward** is rapidly recovering from a recent operation.

Deepest sympathy is extended to **Archie Manion** on the loss of her mother, who recently passed away after a lengthy illness.

One of our recent visitors was **Jim Kondas**, on furlough from the Naval Base at Norfolk, Virginia. From all appearances life in the Navy agrees with him.



## LABORATORY LINES

Norm Schaller

**Joe Murray**, the ace electrician at Fernwood, was a recent visitor at the Lab. Joe certainly looks excellent after 29 months overseas and is wearing the Presidential Citation and campaign ribbons with several stars.

**Jean Anderson** is taking up flying these days and a few people around the Lab are picking out a fox hole on the first floor in case Jean decides to swoop down and buzz the Lab.

**Leon Cartledge** has received word from **Eddie Pollock**. Ed is still bouncing around on the briny blue of the Pacific.

**Ralph Sherman's** son, **Wendell**, is now located in Italy. A recent picture received by Ralph shows him to be in excellent condition.

**Jack Marren, Jr.**, has returned to the West Coast after spending a furlough with his folks.

We are sorry to learn that the husband of **Gladys Carlsson**, our new telephone operator, has entered a hospital for treatment of a throat ailment. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Something new has been added to the Laboratory in the form of fire escapes around the building.

We have just received word that **Herb Diefenderfer** entered Jefferson Hospital to undergo an operation. It is our hope that Herb will have a quick and complete recovery.

Also a recent visitor was **Lem Seale**, who is still stationed at Fort Monmouth, N. J.

A daughter, **Barbara**, was born on April 19th to Mr. and Mrs. **Philip Manning**. Mrs. Manning is the former **Margaret Ward**, daughter of **Bernard A. Ward**.

**Norm Lister** has been honorably discharged from the Navy after having done his bit for Uncle Sam. We will be expecting him back at his desk after his crops have been planted.

We are happy to hear that **Mike Ward's** daughter, **Florence**, is rapidly recovering from a minor operation at her home in South Orange.

Word has just reached us that 1st Lt. **Harold E. Prout**, son of **J. Layton Prout**, Chief Title Examiner, has been liberated from a German prison camp. We can imagine what a delightful Mother's Day gift this glad news has made for Mrs. Prout, having been received on Saturday night, May 12.

## MEET THE GANG

This group of men forms the landscape maintenance crew under Foreman **J. E. F. Johnson** operating out of headquarters in New Brunswick and covering the Central Landscape Division in the surrounding territory. Reading from left to right are:

First row, **Frank Clark**, **Raymond Sears**, **Max Bohac**, **Joseph Komives**, **John Gallino**, **Joseph Jablonsky**, **Michael Saldarello**, **Frank Georgianni**, **Antonio Nastasi**, **Ignatius Messores**. Back row, **Walter Guntoosh**, **Peter Decker**, **William Burd** and **Charles Ludwig**. In front of the crew are Assistant Landscape Foreman **Bradley Sine** and Landscape Foreman **J. E. F. Johnson**.

One activity in which this crew is playing a major part is in connection with the planting being done on the Blue Star Memorial Drive section of State Highway Route No. 29. All of the planting thus far done on this section of highway has been performed by the men in this crew and they are justly proud of their part in this commendable work.

**Frank Clark** is one of the real veterans in the Landscape Division. He has had over 15 years' service in this crew and was one of the first men to be employed in the Landscape Division. He is now operating a truck, but has also served the Department in the capacity of foreman, having had charge of the Northwestern Landscape District from November 1, 1943 to December 31, 1944.

The gardeners in this crew are **Mike Saldarello** and **Frank Georgianni**. Mike can be found almost any evening working in his garden, and Frank keeps himself plenty busy maintaining two large garden plots.

**Max Bohac** and **Joseph Komives** are the power mower operators in this crew. Max is an ardent fisherman and Beach Haven fishing is his favorite diversion. Joe bears the nickname "Casey" and in addition to his power mower duties is an accomplished tree trimmer. **Joseph Jablonsky** is one of the truck operators and is also a good tree trimmer. He is also the fellow who is responsible for the excellent shape in which this crew's power mowers are kept.

**Raymond Sears**, **John Gallino** and **Antonio Nastasi** came to this crew from the construction activities conducted by the Maintenance Division on Route No. 25, and have been valued members ever since. Gallino is a member of the Police Reserve of Highland Park.

**Ignatius Messores** has the responsibility of keeping the grass down in those places inaccessible to the power mowers with a hand mower and sickle. You fellows who perform this job in your own yards, can sympathize with him in this work.

**Peter Decker** was recently discharged from the army and has many wonderful stories to tell of his experiences. Several members of this crew commute some distance to their work each day. **Walter Guntoosh** commutes from South River. **Charlie Ludwig** comes from Cranbury. One of Charlie's responsibilities is that of keeping all saws sharp and set, a job at which he is an expert. **William Burd** commutes every day from Jamesburg and rarely misses a day. A very quiet and unassuming gentleman, he is an excellent power mower operator.

**Bradley Sine** is the Assistant Foreman in this crew and commutes each day from Lambertville. Brad maintains a greenhouse in that community, which keeps him stepping plenty nights.

"**Jeff**" **Johnson**, the Foreman in charge of this crew has his own special hobby. He is an accomplished pianist and organist, giving lessons on the piano and functioning as official organist in one of the local churches. Although we have never had the pleasure of hearing "Jeff" play, we have it on good authority that his accomplishments in this field are of a true professional character. Some one of these days we're going to insist on a "Command Performance."

Considering the crew as a working unit they represent one of the best-balanced crews in our Landscape Division and the results of their cooperative work is well represented by the fine shape in which you will find the roadsides in their territory.

## EQUIPMENT ITEMS

JAMES O'ROURKE

**Joe Thiel** learned in a very definite manner the whereabouts of his son, **Joe, Jr.**, by reading a statement in the Philadelphia Record on April 15th that the 6th Marines had landed on Okinawa and were engaged in combat with the enemy. Joe is a corporal in the 6th Marines and has been in the South Pacific area for 2 years, having participated in several invasions.

Word has been received by **Tim Brennan** from his son, **Jim**, who is also a corporal. Jim is with the Marines on Okinawa and took part in the Iwo Jima invasion.

The Western Union recently dispatched good news to **John Seaman** and **Matty Matzer**, both garage attendants at Fernwood Station.

**Corp. John Seaman, Jr.**, arrived in San Francisco on furlough after serving in the South Pacific area, principally around New Guinea, for 3½ years with the 743rd Medical Detachment. Tech Sgt. **Michael Matzer** also arrived in San Francisco on furlough after serving approximately 2 years in the South Pacific area with the Marines and partaking in several invasions. He is also a brother to **Frank Matzer** of the Highway Department Mailing Room Staff.

**Siggy Belza**, garage attendant, has joined the ranks of homeowners by purchasing a home in Ewing Township.

On Sunday, April 29th, **Al Getz**, mechanics helper at Fernwood, became the father of **Al, Jr.** Mother

## PLANNING SURVEY

JOHN CHRISTIANO

**Joseph P. Severn, R. T. 3/c**, better known to his friends as "The Whip," was home on furlough recently and stopped in to say hello to a few of his old cronies. Joe came in from Chicago where he has been studying radio. Nice seeing you again, Joe. Good luck and hope you're back soon.

What puzzles us is where **Ed Streck** gets that gum. Obviously no shortage there, and, judging from the mileage, it must be natural rubber.

Those of us who haven't spent a summer working with **Tony Amalie** wonder if that cap comes off with the change in season. Why worry, Tony, there's no surplus hair adorning any of the men around here.

**Mr. Bird**, the Chairman of the Red Cross Drive in our Newark Office, is well pleased by the generous response of the local personnel. And why not, especially after the speech he delivered.

**Bill Pfister**, Drainage Engineer of the Montclair Office, drops in occasionally on business, and we always welcome his cheery presence.

**Louise Becker** is undergoing observation at the Paterson General Hospital for a thyroid condition. Hurry and get well, Louise. We miss you at the office.

**Hervey Doane** is back in the office after three weeks in the Hoboken Engineer's office.

**Dick Hawthorne** and **Henry Gahr** repaired the shades in the office last week—a big improvement.

The Department extends its deepest sympathy to **Fred Guenther** and next of kin on the passing of his mother.

**Ed Streck** says he will paint the outside of his house if someone will tell him which side to start first and why.

**Anthony Verdi**, from up Netcong way, stopped in to say hello. Tony's brother was one of the boys at Corridor when it fell. The Verdi family last heard from their brother last August. Let's hope you hear from him soon, Tony.

**Miss Schlank** is back with us after a few days illness.

**Florence Francke** of the front office is taking sewing lessons at the Singer Sewing Center. It looks as though some of the bachelors in the Department won't have to worry about shirt buttons being missing anymore.

## Give Transfusions

Another example of the way in which the State Highway blood typing program works in emergencies was illustrated in the case of Mrs. **E. J. Davison**, wife of "Zeke" **Davison** of the Southern Construction Division office. Mrs. Davison was in need of emergency transfusions prior to a serious operation and reference to the blood types of Highway employees now on record disclosed that there were many of the type desired. As a result, **Walter Johnson**, **Jack Marren** and **Norm Schaller** of the Laboratory, **Cyrus Card** of the Auditing Division, and **James E. Kersey** of Survey and Plans, donated to the cause most generously, thus making it possible to proceed with the operation and subsequently contributing to her present state of convalescence. Zeke is exceedingly grateful to these fellow-workers for the valuable service they have rendered and wishes to express through the columns of THE HIGHWAY his sincere appreciation of The Highway Blood Donor Service originated by **George Heffernan**.

and son are doing nicely and Al, Sr., probably will be all right, too.

**George Callan** and **Austin Day**, who have been on the sick list for over 3 months, have returned to work. Welcome back, boys!

On Monday, April 16th, **Bill Rochford**, **John Wain** and **Angelo DeBlasio** journeyed to Glen Gardner and submitted to a blood transfusion for **Leon Anton** who is to undergo an operation. Leon was formerly chauffeur to **Harry Robbins**.



## Construction Comments

Fred C. Claus  
WOODLYNNE  
Bill Hurley

Captain Robert B. Haight, who was employed in the Woodlynn Office before joining the Armed Forces, writes from Germany as follows: "As you have probably read in the papers by now, we've been seeing plenty of Germany in the past few weeks, and I must say that a good deal of it was blurred—we were moving so fast.

"On the way we passed a great many people going in the opposite direction, namely German prisoners and forced laborers liberated by our rapid push. The prisoners had mixed expressions—some look-mighty happy about the whole thing, some surprised and confused—all with hands over head.

"The forced laborers were from practically every country in Europe, but the majority of them were Russians, Italians and Poles. It was a heartwarming sight to see the manner in which they accepted their 'hour of liberation.' They smiled and cheered as we rolled past them and shouted that they had been waiting for years for us to come.

"They were a sorry looking group, dirty, unshaven and dressed in tattered rags as they passed the wreckage of German vehicles on the road, they scrambled among the debris to find scraps of food and articles of clothing. Many took time out to strip and change over to the clothes they had found—right on the road, with little thought as to the results if and when they were found in German uniforms.

"The elation of these people at being freed made me feel that perhaps there is some point to this war after all.

"Have been receiving the 'Highway' regularly and must say that it serves as a very close tie to activities in the Department."

Enclosed in his letter was a clipping from the Stars and Stripes with the following bit of interesting news: "The United Press says that Germany's super-highways were copied from the New Jersey highway system. Fifteen years ago, a group of German engineers went to New Jersey and were given every opportunity to study the state's Pulaski Skyway, the Woodbridge clover leaf intersection and many other facilities designed to speed traffic."

Bob modestly informs us of his promotion to Captain simply by saying that some changes have been made and that he is happy about the whole thing. His new address is Capt. R. B. Haight, O-1166731, 420th Armo. F. A. Bn. A.P.O. 260 c/o Postmaster, New York, N. Y.

UPPER MONTCLAIR  
David Pettigrew

A delightful visit was paid this office by one of our former colleagues—no other than Capt. Archie VanBlarcom. Van, who at present is Post Engineer at Bayonne with the New York Port of Embarkation, looks well although a little on the stout side.

Technical Sergeant Clifford R. Radus, son of Resident Engineer Maurice Radus, is doing his bit as engineer also, being Radio Technician at Allied Supreme Headquarters, Paris. He writes his work is interesting as are also the many well known persons he is meeting in his daily contacts. Cliff wishes to be remembered to all his friends in the Highway Department.

Sid Neville, who has been breaking all records for the scrap drive in the Town of Ridgfield and Berge County, has now been made Chairman of the National Clothing Drive. Sid is also commander of the American Legion Post.

Lawrence Kavanaugh is now recuperating from an operation. We are glad to hear that everything went favorably and he is now on the mend. Good luck, Larry, from all the boys.

TRENTON  
Alex Cohen

While momentarily at ease near a highway intersection on the eastern front, Captain Ollie Doll stood watching an artillery outfit rumble by. Suddenly a call of recognition and there was Bob Millman passing by with the artillery unit. Time did not permit even a few seconds together. Just a wave and so long—like ships passing in the night.

## Make Ready for Spring Repairs



The arrival of Spring is hailed in many ways. The poet sings of love, the farmer tills his soil, and throughout the countryside the buds burst forth in bloom. But to the maintenance man Spring is the season when he repairs the damage wrought by the snows and freezes of the winter just passed.

Under ordinary conditions joints are poured during the crisp days of autumn when cooler weather contracts the road slabs. This year, however, due to manpower shortages, much of this vital work was laid over until Spring. The group above were busily filling joints along Route 30 when they took time out for the above photograph. They are part of Foreman Jack Taylor's crew and from the left are: Tom Connor, Charlie Williamson, Ed Hunt, Virgilio Angelini, Louiso Cocula, John Ricassoli and Angelo Angelini.

Virgilio has two sons in the service, one of whom is in Europe, while Cocula and Ricassoli each have one son serving their country. The Angelini brothers are the veterans of this crew having joined the forces of the Highway Department back in 1927. Others with more than ten years service are Ricassoli (15) and Hunt (12).

## PROJECTS PARAGRAPHS

E. L. MEYER

Major Al Faxon writes from Germany, April 6th, that he has been across the Rhine more than a week and is right up front with the spearhead headed toward Berlin. Al is with the Field Artillery and he reports that the entire division he is with was completely motorized for the big push.

According to Al the Germans are "Kaput" but don't realize it. However, the war and destruction is finally being brought home to the men who have been terrorizing Europe for so many years.

He says the towns are devoid of everyone but the old, and slave laborers. The Germans are coming to understand death and destruction and they sure are catching it from Faxon's heavy guns.

Al is looking forward to the day he can cease this destruction and get back to work while construction. He's been wondering how the Highway has been getting along without labor and materials.

A letter that Al wrote to Dick Glasgow while he was stationed on the Rhine came to the States and for some peculiar reason went back to him in Germany just as he was stationed on the Elbe. The second time Dick got the letter.

We hear that Lt. Ernie Topping is still in the Carolines. He is busy running the survey parties engaged in making a topographical map of the island and working around the world's largest Air Station. They handle B-29's, etc.

Lt. George Packer is back in civies after having been honorably discharged from the Army about the middle of April. George has started back at work in his old job and it's sure good to see him around again. He will have charge of Burlington County work and is now learning the ropes with Fred Shill.

We sincerely regret to report the death on April 26th of Inspector John J. Hopkins, who resided at 55 Lincoln Street, Jersey City. John was a 25-year man and had been with the Projects Division since June 1, 1922.

Our sympathy is also extended to Inspector Walter A. Lasher of East Orange, who we understand, recently lost his second son in the war.

George Kraus has just been made a Captain. The news of the promotion came while he was home for a few days before reporting to his new assignment at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Since returning from a two year stretch in the Aleutians, George and the other men who were in the 349th Engineers have been stationed at Camp Clairborne, La. Recently, their unit was broken up and the officers reassigned.

## Administration Division

Arthur Egan

Captain Welling Howell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin L. Howell, has been released from the Army after several years service in the Pacific. Captain Howell plans to resume his veterinarian work.

While listening to the radio, Mrs. Cyrus Card was surprised to hear her daughter's voice coming over the air from Don McNeill's Breakfast Club in Chicago. It was a real thrill for Mrs. Card who did not know her homecoming daughter was to be a guest on the program.

The many friends of Jim Martin have been extending congratulations and well wishes to him on the event of his recent birthday. We add our own Many Happy Returns, Jim.

Claire Laczoni, who has been studying at the Trenton Art School, exhibited her first water color painting recently. The picture was hung in that well known art gallery—the Auditor's Room. We liked the painting very much and would say that Claire definitely has talent.

We are sorry to learn of the death of Ruth Barbour's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Barbour. Sincere sympathy is extended to Ruth and members of her family.

CHATTER: Bill Ward recently journeyed to Hyannis, Cape Cod, to visit with friends. He came back with sand in his shoes. . . Pvt. Kermit Bonner sends greetings from France. . . With the end of the European War we all are anxiously awaiting to see the boys again. . . Ann Ludwig is back on the job again after a siege of quinsy. . . Helen Disbrow's husband, Lt. George Disbrow, was home on furlough after two years of foreign service. . . Bob Fleming of the File Rooms reports a good bag of trout on the opening day. We hear Bob is angling for a new species over around Round Brook. . . Eddie McElroy is now a full-fledged grandpoo—his son, Bob becoming the father of a daughter. Congratulations! . . . Spring is bringing forth the usual crop of gardeners again this season. Harry Hill is far ahead with his project and Viola Gallagher is again raising turkeys. . . More competition for Hunt and Egan. . . Ed Downs turned up for a couple of days with what looked like the start of a Hitler mustache. However, Eddie says it isn't permanent, just made necessary by a severe cold. . . We happened to hear John Farley, Construction Inspector, say that his son was in the Persian Command. We mentioned that Captain George McCann was also stationed there. John wrote his son, who then looked up George and they had a very pleasant meeting, but not until they both had been moved to Germany.

## Maintenance Notes

GENE BECKNER

Ernie Van Schoick, one of our landscape foremen now in the service, writes from somewhere in Germany. When we last heard from Ernie he was way over in India, but as he says in his letter, he has traveled a few thousand miles since then and is now stationed in Germany. Ernie recently had a chance to go through part of the Siegfried Line Fortifications, and he reports that from the magnitude of the whole area they must have started building right after the last war. He said, too, that most likely by the time we received his letter he believed Berlin would be taken—and right he was.

Another of the landscape men to be heard from recently was Sgt. Jack Lloyd, whose letter was written "Somewhere at Sea" in the Pacific. His destination, of course, was not disclosed, but he reports himself to be in fine shape and enjoying the trip.

Several members of Foreman Kenneth Ely's maintenance crew have been on the sick list. Fred White, who drives the truck in this outfit, had his tonsils removed during April, but is now back working. John Frederick, one of our real veterans who was 75 his last birthday, was laid up a couple of weeks with a leg injury, but he too has returned to work. Harry Davison hasn't been so fortunate. Harry was forced to take off for about a week during April to care for his sick wife, and just when he was about to return to work he was taken sick himself with a bad case of ulcers on his right eye, and he is still in pretty bad shape. We hope to see him back again soon too.



WILBERT KAENZIG

Wilbert Kaenzig has returned to his duties in Foreman Earl Whildin's maintenance crew in South Jersey after 18 months service in the U. S. Navy. Wilbert served on board the USS Texas during his enlistment from August 1, 1943, until his honorable discharge in February, 1945. The USS Texas is best remembered in the present war for the part she played in the D-Day Invasion off the coast of Cherbourg. To quote a newspaper account of the day's battle: ". . . this proud old queen of the older Fleet sustained two direct hits, innumerable damaging misses, had to fight two fires spreading on the main deck and cope with a live enemy shell aboard. She fought back, like an Amazon. Three times she roared back through shell-burst alley, swerving, twisting, turning in a maze of exploding geysers, with her 14" guns blasting a death-trail of half-ton projectiles at the enemy forts."

Kaenzig served throughout all of the battle which lasted for about three hours as a fuse setter. After the battle the ship returned to the United States. Kaenzig was hospitalized for a period of about four months and honorably discharged February 1st, 1945. He returned to his duties with the Department on April 16th.

Bob Green's Landscape Division has been given a new name. A recent letter received by him was addressed to the "Decorative Shrubbery Division."

Willard Mealy and his mudd-jacking crew made the news down at the Lakehurst Naval Air Station. In a recent issue of "The Airship," the post weekly, a picture appeared

## BRIDGE BRIEFS

A. J. LICHTENBERG

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Weller have announced the marriage of their daughter, Sybil Louise, to Frank Roberts Suddards on April 28th at the Trinity Methodist Church, Merchantville. A reception followed the ceremony. Mr. Suddards has had 3½ years of army service and is presently employed by the General Electric Co. in Philadelphia. The couple will make their home in Landsdown, Pa.

Captain Herbert Goodkind of the 1174th Engineer Combat Group has been signally honored with the Bronze Star and medal, with promotion to Major and with a citation for his work of expediting the supply and movement of bridge equipment shipments to the communications zone to the army in its assault crossing of the Rhine River. Colonel Richard V. Nicholas stated: "Throughout his relationship with this headquarters Captain Goodkind has displayed consistently zealous and conscientious effort. He has repeatedly succeeded in expediting emergency procurements at our request, and obtained for this Army those urgently needed items that were vital to accomplishment of the Rhine River crossing mission. His services have been such as to reflect most favorably upon his own headquarters. I desire to commend Captain Goodkind for his superior and outstanding services in connection with Engineer supply to Ninth Army."

Senator C. Wesley Armstrong in a letter to Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr., commended the employees of the Department for the gratifying response to the American Red Cross War Fund Drive. He stated in part, "May I extend to you and to the employees of your Department my sincere appreciation for your help, which has made this campaign the most successful in the history of the Trenton Chapter, American Red Cross. This is concrete evidence of real effort on the home front in support of our boys on the battle front."

Since George A. Hefferman, Departmental Chairman of the drive, is a Bridge Division employee, may we, as a group, extend to him and his excellent committee our congratulations for a job well done.

BRIEFS: Chester Appleton is devoting full time to his truck garden. Samuel M. Rankin is Borough Engineer of Roselle Park. "Old Mr. Boston" seems to be Fred Dileo's new appellation since his recent trip to the cultural center to reminisce with an old school chum. . . M. L. Vail and Harry Bergen are now assigned to the bridge over the D. L. and W. R. R. and a highway overpass in Phillipsburg. . . We have observed that "Even if you are on the right track, you'll be run over—if you sit there." Jim Whitehead is devoting his energies to bulkhead building along the feeder to the Delaware and Raritan Canal in Trenton. . . Charles Spence has moved over to the Berry's Creek job from his recent boring assignment. . . Chester Smith has been fascinated with the history of a large cottonwood tree that grew in Stacy Park, and we have accordingly learned about trees from him. . . The Bridge Division Club held its annual Spring Dinner at the Cranbury Inn on May 17th. Members and their wives attended and an excellent program was provided by Spencer, Hefferman and Patrick, which included testimonials to members, birthday surprises, professional entertainment, music and dancing. More next month.

showing Willard and two members of his crew, Patsy Rimo and Fred Longo, together with their mudd-jacking outfit. These boys have long since completed their work at Lakehurst and have moved on to another assignment at the Naval Ammunition Depot down at Earle in Monmouth County.

Staff Sgt. Edward (Googs) Clark, formerly a member of Landscape Foreman Johnson's crew, has received his honorable discharge from the U. S. Marine Corps. He hasn't returned to work yet, but we are looking forward to seeing him soon.

Michael Rosta and John Bevacqua, two members of Foreman Bert Wood's crew, have been home ill for some time. Best wishes to both for an early recovery.